

BLACKSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

News Release

DATE: **October 10, 2003**

CONTACT: **Lt. B.E. Bradbery 961-1810**

SUBJECT: **Students Injured in Fall**

Two Virginia Tech students were injured early this morning in another fall from a third story apartment.

Blacksburg Police are investigating the 2:50 a.m. incident in the Hunter's Ridge apartment complex that left 20-year-old Elisabeth McFadyen and 20-year-old Devin Welch both hospitalized. McFadyen is listed in stable condition with spinal injuries, and being moved to a Roanoke hospital later this morning. Welch is also listed as stable in Montgomery Regional Hospital with multiple injuries.

The preliminary investigation has revealed that both had been drinking alcohol and were on the third floor balcony of Welch's apartment. McFadyen jumped into the arms of Welch, who was leaning against the rail. As Welch lifted her, they both tumbled backward over the railing and fell the 20-plus feet to the ground. The balcony was examined by police immediately following the incident and it appeared to be structurally sound.

Both were conscious when police arrived and were transported to Montgomery Regional Hospital by Blacksburg Rescue personnel.